HURRICANE CHECKLIST

When a Hurricane threatens, never be without the following:

- **Lighting Source(s):** Flashlight / Lamp / Lantern / Candle
- **Fuel:** Kerosene / LPG (Cooking Gas) / Coal / Wood
- **Matches**
- **Food which does not require refrigeration**
- **Non-perishable food**
- **Drinking water** (Water Purification Tablets and / or Bleach will assist in producing clean water)
- **Plastic Bags / Plastic Covering / Tarps**
- **Battens / Shutters (purpose built or makeshift)**
- **Rope**
- **Hammer**
- **Nails**
- **Masking Tape**
- **First Aid Kit (including any special medication)**
- **Personal hygiene items**
- **Battery-operated radio**
- **Information on the nearest Public Shelter**
- **An Evacuation Plan**
- **Contingency Plans for shelter, if it becomes necessary**

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office of Disaster Preparedness</td>
<td>928-5111-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Emergency Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety &amp; Emergency</td>
<td>906-8000/ 9000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HURRICANE NAMES – 2008


HURRICANE CATEGORIES

**Category 1**

* Winds of 119-153 Kilometres per hour (74-95 mph)

**Category 2**

* Winds of 154-177 Kilometres per hour (96-110 mph)

**Category 3**

* Winds of 178-209 Kilometres per hour (111-130 mph)

**Category 4**

* Winds of 210-249 Kilometres per hour (131-155 mph)

**Category 5**

* Winds greater than 249 kilometres per hour (>115 mph)

HURRICANE TERMINOLOGY

1. Tropical Depression – This is a tropical cyclone in which the maximum sustained surface wind speed is 33 knots or less.
2. Tropical Storm – This is a tropical cyclone in which maximum sustained surface wind ranges from 34 knots to 63 knots.
3. Hurricane Advisory – This is a message issued by the Meteorological Office giving a description of a storm, its position, anticipated movement and prospective threat.
4. Hurricane Watch – This is the first alert when a hurricane poses a possible, but yet uncertain threat to an area.
5. Hurricane Warning – A notice that in 24 hours or less, an area may be influenced by hurricane conditions.
THE HURRICANE SEASON RUNS FROM 1ST JUNE – 30TH NOVEMBER.

Hurricanes have awesome destructive potential.

HERE ARE SOME VERY IMPORTANT HURRICANE PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW:

BEFORE THE START OF THE SEASON

- Develop your own Emergency Plan.
- Take First Aid and CPR Classes.
- Plan to obtain supplies necessary to protect your property.
- Make a complete inventory of your personal property.
- Review insurance policies for your property.
- Trim or remove trees that can cause damage to your establishment.
- Stock non-perishable food items and water for your family to last at least two weeks. Once a watch is issued, these items disappear quickly from store shelves.

AT THE START OF THE HURRICANE SEASON

- Check on these emergency items: battery-powered radio, water, boots, raincoats, batteries, matches, hurricane lamps, hurricane shutters, hooks and latches.
- Keep plastic bags, nails, hammer and other tools handy.
- Keep on-hand simple First Aid supplies.

DURING THE SEASON

- Make sure you have materials for battening up doors and windows.
- Be sure to understand these Hurricane Terminologies: Advisories, Watch and Warning. These are indicators of how far away the hurricane is from your location and the probability of it affecting you.
- Keep in touch with your Disaster Preparedness Committee/Office and know how it operates.

ON THE APPROACH OF THE HURRICANE

- Keep radio on and listen for the latest warnings and bulletins which will be given via radio and television.
- After the first bulletin has been issued, listen carefully for the summary of the most up-to-date bulletin. You can call 116 for an update from the Meteorological Office.
- Procure extra food – especially kinds which can be eaten without being cooked or with very little preparation. These include canned and non-perishable food items.
- Take down television antennae, canvas awnings, satellite dishes and move furniture away from exposed windows and doors.
- Remove all items such as books, figurines etc. from store shelves and store in a safe room. All florescent tubes, light bulbs and lamp shades should be kept in safe areas as broken glass can be dangerous during a hurricane.

DURING THE HURRICANE

- Do not go outside unless it is absolutely necessary. As the wind speed increases, you are in danger of being hit by flying objects and subject to electrical burns and/or electrocution by fallen or falling power lines.
- Be Calm; do not panic; your ability to act logically is important.
- Continue to listen to the radio for information on what is happening.
- Keep your hurricane lamp burning as it might make the night more tolerable.
- If the house or building shows signs of breaking up, stay under a table or door frame.

AFTER THE HURRICANE

- Clear up debris and effect emergency repairs to your establishment.
- Do not touch loose or dangling electrical wires.
- Report electrical damages to the Jamaica Public Service Company or the nearest Police Station.
- Report broken water mains to the National Water Commission.
- Do not go outside bare-footed. Avoid wearing open shoes. Watch out for sharp objects.
- Be alert to prevent fires. Lowered pressure after damage to the water system makes fire-fighting very difficult.
- Burn dead animals.
- Avoid eating meat.
- Offer help to other members of your community who might have been affected.

PREPARED BY:

Tel: 906- 8000/ 4000/ 6000
Fax: 906-9000
E-mail: sems_1@cwjamaica.com